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REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

In response to the Office Action, new claims 33 through 38 have been added. New independent claim 33 is a rewrite of prior dependent claim 24, indicated in the outstanding Office Action as being allowable. The claim was rewritten rather than amending a previously presented claim in order to more clearly and logically set out the invention. In that regard, the claim has been carefully drafted to conform to the reasons for allowance set out by the Examiner. The dependent claims provide further specificity to the claimed, and generally include the limitations in previously presented claims 25 and 26, also indicated as containing allowable subject matter. The previously presented claims have been cancelled.

Information Disclosure Statements

The Office Action Summary indicates that Applicant's Information Disclosure Statement of June 22, 2004 is attached, though a copy was not, in fact, provided. Applicant respectfully requests that a copy of the acknowledged Information Disclosure Statement be provided in the next communication.

In addition, an Information Disclosure Statement citing U.S. Patent No. 5,389,872 is submitted concurrently herewith and Applicant respectfully requests consideration of the same.

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CONCLUSION

Applicant respectfully requests that a timely Notice of Allowance be issued in this case.

Respectfully submitted,

BLAKELY, SOKOLOFF, TAYLOR & ZAFMAN LLP

Dated: 12/21/2004

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